**Published: Dec. 11, 2016, *Kokomo Tribune* [Page: A4]**

http://www.kokomotribune.com/indianakokomo/editorial-trump-must-take-briefings/article_7faedb52-bf42-11e6-a211-c3180b6d1648.html

# Editorial: Trump must take briefings

Since Election Day, President-elect Donald Trump has found time for repeatedly insulting the casts of “Saturday Night Live” and the Broadway musical “Hamilton” on his Twitter account, conducting a “thank you tour” of additional rallies, and attending Saturday’s Army-Navy football game.

All this has apparently left little to no time for learning the ropes of his new job.

“Trump is receiving an average of one presidential intelligence briefing a week, according to U.S. officials familiar with the matter, far fewer than most of his recent predecessors,” reported Reuters’ Mark Hosenball on Friday. “Although they are not required to, presidents-elect have in the past generally welcomed the opportunity to receive the President's Daily Brief, the most highly classified and closely held document in the government, on a regular basis.”

This is highly disturbing. Trump succeeded in the campaign season by being off-the-cuff with his remarks and improvisational with the truth. This isn’t the job interview any longer, the job has been secured. This behavior simply won’t do any longer. The real work will begin next month. Trump’s attention

span must experience a rapid growth spurt or we're all in serious trouble in a few short weeks.

Please understand this is not a partisan, political attack. Barring some reversal of fortunes before the Electoral College meets Dec. 19, Trump has won enough electors despite losing the popular vote to become the 45th president Jan. 20. We need Trump to be as prepared as possible for this monumental task. Winging it won't do.

"Most of all, I want to emphasize to you, Mr. President-elect, that we now are going to want to do everything we can to help you succeed," said President Barack Obama after meeting with Trump at The White House on Nov. 10, "because if you succeed, then the country succeeds."

This is not a reality television show. This is not a game. This is real life. We can collectively agree or disagree about what policies should be implemented, but we, as Americans, should all agree we don't want the country to fall apart during the next four years.

You don't know everything, Mr. President-elect. It's time to start cracking the books.